AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 through 20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a peripheral device detachably coupled to a computer system, said method comprising:

receiving [[an]] a device-specific interrupt from said peripheral device, said peripheral device being coupled to a communications port of said computer system;

responsive to said device-specific interrupt, posting an interrupt notification message to alert a high priority device-specific notification handler without identifying said peripheral device, wherein said high priority notification handler is directly associated only with said peripheral device, said high priority device-specific notification handler having a higher priority than a system interrupt notification handler and being capable of directly servicing an interrupt from said peripheral device without involving said system interrupt notification handler; and

servicing said interrupt notification message upon receipt thereof.

22. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said computer system has a plurality of said high priority device-specific notification handlers installed thereon.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21 further comprising triggering a default action in the event that said high priority device-specific notification handler fails to handle said interrupt notification message.

24. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said communications port is a serial communications port.

25. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said peripheral device is a RS-232 peripheral device.

26. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said computer system is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21 further comprising examining a device sense pin of said communications port to determine a voltage thereon.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer system capable of identifying a peripheral device communicatively coupled thereto, said computer system comprising:

a processor for posting an interrupt notification message to alert a high priority device-specific notification handler in response to [[an]] a device-specific interrupt received from a peripheral device without identifying said peripheral

device, wherein said high priority notification handler is directly associated only with said peripheral device, said high priority device-specific notification handler having a higher priority than a system interrupt notification handler and being capable of directly servicing an interrupt from said peripheral device without involving said system interrupt notification handler;

a memory coupled to said processor; and

a communications port coupled to said processor, said communications port for receiving said device-specific interrupt from said peripheral device.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said computer system has a plurality of said high priority device-specific notification handlers installed thereon.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said processor is operable to trigger a default action in the event that said high priority device-specific notification handler fails to handle said interrupt notification message.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said communications port is a serial communications port.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said peripheral device is a RS-232 peripheral device.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said computer system is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

34. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said communication port comprises a device sense pin of said communications port to determine a voltage thereon.

35. (New) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said system interrupt notification handler is a HotSync interrupt notification handler.

36. (New) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said servicing said interrupt notification message is performed without receiving additional signals from said peripheral device subsequent receiving said device-specific interrupt.

37. (New) The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein said servicing said interrupt notification message is performed without detecting attachment of said peripheral device to said computer system.

38. (New) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said system interrupt notification handler is a HotSync interrupt notification handler.

39. (New) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said communications port does not any receive additional signals from said peripheral device subsequent receiving said device-specific interrupt for purposes of servicing said device-specific interrupt.

40. (New) The computer system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said processor does not detect attachment of said peripheral device.